

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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PROJECTS: JANA ŠTĚRBÁK

November 20, 1992 - January 5, 1993

A mixed-media installation by Montreal-based artist Jana Štěrbák opens on November 20, 1992, at The Museum of Modern Art as part of its ongoing **PROJECTS** series. This provocative work, entitled *Sisyphus II*, which comprises a chrome sculpture and a film loop projected onto the gallery wall, makes reference to the repeated actions and feelings of daily life. Organized by Barbara London, assistant curator, Video, Department of Film, **PROJECTS: JANA ŠTĚRBÁK** is on view in the Museum's lower-level René d'Harnoncourt Galleries through January 5, 1993.

The installation *Sisyphus II* consists of an elegant, egg-shaped metal sculpture, designed to human scale, which rests on the floor at a precarious tilt. Projected onto one gallery wall is a grainy black-and-white film of a man -- dressed only in briefs and standing inside the sculpture -- rotating and swiveling as he endlessly struggles to maintain his balance.

In her essay for the brochure accompanying the exhibition, Ms. London writes, "Štěrbák is looking positively at the accumulated experience that comes with repetition....She laments the limitations of the body. Disturbed that she cannot fly or disappear at will, she explores our concepts of power and aspiration, drawing from intuition much more than reason. In her work, the physical opens up the metaphysical in a contemporary discourse that will ultimately yield new situations."

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